

-14-

New Claims

The new claims are not disclosed in Hayama et al., Reckitt, or a combination thereof. For example, with respect to new claim 63, Hayama et al. do not disclose use of a buffer whatsoever and does not discuss pH. A buffer is important in contributing to the stability of the composition. Also, with respect to claim 71, neither cited document discloses formulations to which adhesive products, particularly, medical adhesive products, will adhere. The other new claims are also free from the teachings and suggestions of the cited documents, either alone or in combination.

Summary

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 1-49 and 61-80 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Lambert

Nancy M. Lambert
Registration No. 44,856
Attorney for Applicants

NML:jlh/
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
(651) 733-2180
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833

Dated: February 2, 2004